

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/025,005

Examiner

Haythim J. Alaubaidi

Applicant(s)

BOBBITT ET AL.

Art Unit

2168

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment of 9/12/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9,14,15,23,27 and 28.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in regard to the amendment of September 12, 2005.
2. Claims 9, 14-15, 23 and 27-28 are presented for examination.
3. Claims 9, 14-15, 23 and 27-28 are allowed over the closest prior art of record.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. The following is the Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding Claims 9, 14, 23 and 27, Applicant's particular method and associated system in the environment of virtualizing a plurality of file systems is maintaining a copy of system configuration information that identifies the file server that host a master logical volume and one or more file servers that host one or more slave logical volumes on each client that accesses the virtual file system in combination with the limitation of associating with each file in the virtual name directory and the file hierarchy, data including meta data and pointer to the file content associated in combination with the other limitations of the claims, was not disclosed by, would not have been obvious over, nor would have been fairly suggested by the closest prior art of record or that encountered in searching of the prior art, the prior art fails to anticipate or render Applicant's limitations above obvious.

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Dependent Claim 15, being further limiting to independent Claim 14; and dependent Claim 28 being further limiting to independent Claim 27; definite and enabled by the Specification are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Other Prior Art Made of Record

5. a. Howard et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6185574) discloses a Multiple display file directory and file navigation system for a personal computer
- b. Corbett et al. ACM Transactions on Computer Systems, discloses "The Vesta Parallel System"; Vol. 14, No. 3; August 1996, Pages 225-264.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

Points of Contact

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Haythim J. Alaubaidi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4014. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (571) 272-4023.

Any response to this office action should be mailed to:

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 or Faxed at our central fax number (571) 273-8300.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window of the Randolph Building at 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314



Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
Art Unit 2168



FRANTZ COBY
PRIMARY EXAMINER